



Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

— Making a positive difference through education and service —

January 7, 2004

Dear School Administrator:

During the past four summers, we have scored a portion of the MAP assessments at regional sites within Missouri. We are pleased that hundreds of educators from across the state have served as in-state scorers in the past, and we look forward to involving many more teachers in the scoring process.

In 2004, we will continue to score assessments at nine different regional sites (Liberty, Lindbergh, Macon, Columbia, Raytown, Rockwood, Sikeston, Springfield, and Webb City). In 2003, we changed the structure of the scoring period from one three week session to two seven-day sessions at each site. This change worked well and allowed us to include more educators in the scoring process. We will continue with the two seven-day sessions in 2004. The first scoring session is June 8-16, and the second session is June 17-25. At each session, we will train and qualify 24 teachers per site to score the assessments. We will pay scorers a stipend of \$100.00 per day. (We are not able to reimburse for travel expenses.)

One of the enclosures accompanying this letter provides specific information about the scoring process. The additional enclosures are "participant nomination forms." There are nine nomination forms (one per scoring site). Please copy these enclosures as needed. An individual teacher may be nominated for no more than two sites. An authorizing administrator must sign the nomination form for anyone who will be applying for a position in the scoring.

We hope you will nominate staff from your district to participate in one of the scoring sessions or that you will make this information available to your staff so they can respond to this invitation. Because of the limited number of scoring stations at each site, we may not be able to select all those who are nominated. If this is the case, we will give preference to teachers from the region and to teachers from priority schools. (We assume that your teachers will be most interested in working at a nearby site. In the past, some administrators have used professional-development funds to cover their teachers' expenses if they chose to score at distant sites.)

We encourage you to nominate teachers who have taught at least two years in the content area in which they wish to score. We also suggest that, in general, teachers score assessments for the grade span they teach, although middle-school teachers may apply to score high-school tests, and high-school teachers may apply to score middle-school tests. Please confer with any nominee to determine if scoring is an appropriate form of professional development for him/her. (We have found that MAP scoring is a very powerful learning experience for those who volunteer; draftees, as you can imagine, do not reap great benefits.) Also, please verify nominees' availability for the scoring period before submitting their names.

Please return completed nomination forms to the Assessment Section by February 16, 2004. We will notify all nominees of their selection status by March 14.

We hope teachers in your district will accept this invitation to participate in the 2004 MAP scoring. Teachers who have scored MAP assessments tell us that it is a valuable professional-development experience.

If you have additional questions, please contact the Assessment Section at 800/845-3545. We look forward to receiving nominations from your district.

Sincerely,

Bert Schulte,
Deputy Commissioner

Enclosures